

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/EP2004/012286

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 C22C38/02 C22C38/04 C22C38/12 C22C38/14 C21D9/00  
F16B25/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 C22C C21D F16B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	EP 0 948 719 A (EJOT VERBINDUNGSTECHNIK GMBH & CO. KG) 13 October 1999 (1999-10-13) cited in the application the whole document	1-4,7
Y	DD 272 973 A (VEB STAHL- UND WALZWERK BRANDENBURG, DD) 1 November 1989 (1989-11-01) page 1, paragraphs 4,5 - page 2, paragraph 2; claim 1; example	1-4,7
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 014, no. 431 (C-0759), 17 September 1990 (1990-09-17) & JP 02 166229 A (TOA STEEL CO LTD), 26 June 1990 (1990-06-26) abstract	1,5,6, 8-10

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

### \* Special categories of cited documents:

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- \*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- \*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- \*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- \*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- \*&\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

1 March 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

11/04/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.O. Box 1 Patent Plaza 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 630 nl,  
Fax (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Lilimpakis, E

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/EP2004/012286

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	DE 34 27 557 A1 (VEB STAHL- UND WALZWERK) 28 March 1985 (1985-03-28) page 3, paragraphs 3,4	1,5,8
A	EP 0 093 218 A (UGINE ACIERS) 9 November 1983 (1983-11-09) page 3, line 24 - line 34; claim 1	1-6,8,9

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

 International Application No  
 PCT/EP2004/012286

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 0948719	A	13-10-1999	DE 19732615 A1	04-02-1999
			DE 19749845 A1	12-05-1999
			AU 730193 B2	01-03-2001
			AU 9070498 A	22-02-1999
			BR 9806234 A	21-03-2000
			CA 2267119 A1	11-02-1999
			CN 1120941 C	10-09-2003
			CZ 9901015 A3	13-12-2000
			DE 59802321 D1	17-01-2002
			DK 948719 T3	04-03-2002
			WO 9906719 A1	11-02-1999
			EP 0948719 A1	13-10-1999
			ES 2166614 T3	16-04-2002
			JP 2001502407 T	20-02-2001
			PL 332379 A1	13-09-1999
			TR 9900691 T1	21-01-2000
			TW 425460 B	11-03-2001
			US 6113331 A	05-09-2000
DD 272973	A	01-11-1989	DD 272973 A1	01-11-1989
JP C2166229	A	26-06-1990	JP 2731797 B2	25-03-1998
DE 3427557	A1	28-03-1985	DD 231950 A3	15-01-1986
EP 0093218	A	09-11-1983	FR 2525709 A1	28-10-1983
			AT 21940 T	15-09-1986
			CA 1198615 A1	31-12-1985
			DE 3273051 D1	09-10-1986
			EP 0093218 A1	09-11-1983
			JP 58189358 A	05-11-1983